

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming apparatus comprising:
an image bearing body;
a light source;
5 polarizing means for polarizing a light emitted
from said light source;
a lens for imaging a light polarized by said
polarizing means onto said image bearing body; and
an optical box for containing at least said light
10 source, said polarizing means, and said lens, wherein
said optical box is provided plurally and said
plurality of optical boxes are stacked to be
integrated.
- 15 2. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
1, wherein said optical box has a positioning portion
for other of said optical box to be stacked thereon.
- 20 3. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
1, wherein said optical box and other of said optical
box are fixed to each other by an elastic member, or by
adhering or welding.
- 25 4. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
1, wherein said optical box has an engaging portion for
engaging with other of said optical box.

5. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
1, wherein said engaging portion has a notch portion.

5 6. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
1, further comprising positioning means having
positioning portions for positioning said plurality of
optical boxes, respectively.

10 7. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
6, wherein said positioning means has a form of a box.

8. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
1, wherein said optical box has an engaging portion for
engaging with a main body of said apparatus.

15 9. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
8, wherein said engaging portion has a notch portion.

20 10. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
1, wherein said image bearing body is provided plurally
and said plurality of image bearing bodies are provided
in correspondence with said plurality of optical boxes,
respectively.

25 11. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
10, wherein an interval between said optical boxes is
equal to an interval between said image bearing bodies.

12. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said plurality of optical boxes corresponds to a plurality of formed images having different colors.